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Docket No. HRT0278

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Andrew H. Hancock

Serial No. : 09/976,216 Art Unit : 3732

Filed : October 12, 2001 Examiner : E. Robert

Title : Apparatus & Method for Off-Pump Cardiac Surgery

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on June 25, 2004, to telephone number 703 872-9306.

Dated: June 25, 2004



Brian S. Tomko

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 27, 2004, the time for responding having been extended by petition, and further in connection with the attached Request for Continued Prosecution, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this document.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this document.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this document.